

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

PENDING CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A personal identification terminal comprising:
a plurality of identification conditions including identification means and identification levels that are selectable for use; and
means for selecting one of the plural identification conditions to perform identification, according to identification condition setting information received from a server every time a request for identification is received from the server,
wherein the identification condition setting information received from the server includes a digital signature for detecting an alteration thereof; and
means for sending to the server, as a confirmation, identification condition used by the personal identification terminal for the identification, in a format enabling detection of an alteration thereof, together with a result of the identification.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) A personal identification terminal according to claim 1, wherein if the identification condition that is designated by the identification condition setting information does not exist, default identification condition is used so as to perform the personal identification.
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A personal identification terminal according to claim 1, wherein the format that enables detection of an alteration is based on a network authentication protocol utilizing a secret key.

6. (Previously Presented) A personal identification terminal according to claim 5, wherein different secret keys are used for different identification conditions.

7. (Previously Presented) A personal identification terminal according to claim 1, wherein the used condition information is added to information of the result of the identification, which is enciphered or provided with a digital signature before being sent to the server.

8. (Previously Presented) A personal identification terminal according to claim 1, wherein in the case where identification means utilizing biometric information is used, a score indicating a similarity or a hash value of the score is added to the information of the result of the identification.

9. (Previously Presented) A personal identification terminal according to claim 1, further comprising a next identification means decision portion for deciding identification means utilizing biometric information that should be used next in accordance with a score that indicates a similarity when the identification was performed using identification means utilizing biometric information.

10. (Original) A personal identification terminal according to claim 9, wherein if the score that indicates a similarity when the identification was performed using identification means utilizing biometric information is lower than a predetermined minimum level, the process is stopped without proceeding to the next identification process.

11. (Previously Presented) A personal identification terminal according to claim 1, wherein if the score that indicates a similarity when the identification was performed using identification means utilizing biometric information shows complete identity, the result of the identification is regarded as being false.

12. (Original) A personal identification terminal according to claim 1, wherein a combination of an IC card and an IC card reader/writer constitutes the terminal.

13. (Previously Presented) A server that is connected to a personal identification terminal including a plurality of identification conditions including identification means and identification levels that are selectable for use, the server comprising a programmed computer processor controlling the server according to a process comprising:

 sending to the personal identification terminal identification condition setting information for designating one of the plural identification conditions of identification means and identification levels to be selected by the personal identification terminal to perform identification, every time a request for identification is sent from the server to the personal identification terminal;

 storing a log of a score that indicates a similarity, if the personal identification terminal performed the identification using biometric information, or a hash value of the score, that was added to result information of the identification received from the personal identification terminal according to the sending of the identification condition setting information; and

 failing the identification, if same score value continues several times in accordance with the read log of the score or the hash value of the score, despite a result of the identification received from the personal identification terminal.

14. (Previously Presented) A method of personal identification comprising:

 sending by a server identification condition setting information together with a request for identification to a personal identification terminal including a plurality of identification conditions including identification means and identification levels that are selectable for use by the personal identification terminal to perform the identification;

selecting by the personal identification terminal one of the plural identification conditions to perform identification, according to the identification condition setting information received from the server; and

sending by the personal identification terminal to the server, as a confirmation, identification condition used by the personal identification terminal for the identification, in a format that enables detection of an alteration thereof together with a result of the identification.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, further comprising:
sending identification terminal information including a location and a current time from the personal identification terminal to the server, before sending the request for identification and the identification condition setting information from the server to the personal identification terminal; and

changing the identification condition setting information to be sent to the personal identification terminal by a processing portion of the server in accordance with the identification terminal information that was received from the personal identification terminal.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, further comprising sending information for designating a number of usable times of a secret key, together with the request for identification and the identification condition setting information sent from the server to the personal identification terminal, to limit a number of usable times of the secret key by a user, when a result of the identification is OK.

17. (Previously Presented) A computer program that is installed in a personal identification terminal having a plurality of identification conditions including identification means and identification levels that are selectable for use, the computer program makes a processor of the personal identification terminal execute a process comprising:

selecting one of the plural identification conditions to perform identification, according to identification condition setting information received from a server every time a request for identification is received from the server; and

sending, as a confirmation, identification condition used by the personal identification terminal for the identification to the server, in a format that enables detection of an alteration thereof, together with a result of the identification.

18. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium storing a computer program that is installed in a server communicably connectable to a personal identification terminal having a plurality of identification conditions including identification means and identification levels that are selectable for use, the computer program makes a processor of the server execute a process comprising:

sending to the personal identification terminal identification condition setting information for designating one of the plural identification conditions of identification means and identification levels to be selected by the personal identification terminal to perform identification, every time a request for identification is sent from the server to the personal identification terminal;

storing a log of a score that indicates a similarity, if the personal identification terminal performed the identification using biometric information, or a hash value of the score, that was added to result information of the identification received from the personal identification terminal according to the sending of the identification condition setting information; and

failing the identification, if same score value continues several times in accordance with the read log of the score or the hash value of the score, despite a result of the identification received from the personal identification terminal.